Resource Protection and Restoration Priorities – DRAFT

The table below contains a list of water quality management objectives tied to the primary uses of our water resources.

Please review the table in advance of the discussion and be prepared to add or clarify any objectives you feel are missing from consideration. We will be discussing the prioritization and running an exercise to assess consensus on the highest priorities within water quality management. Please give thought to which of the objectives merit highest priority: those priorities which should be a focus within our state and local water quality management programs and activities. (We want your feedback on what should be a priority regardless of how well our current management system is effectively addressing that objective.)

Public health (consumption)	**Recreation (exposure)**	**Ecosystem**
Prevent public drinking water sources from becoming impaired– surface water & groundwater	Prevent water quality degradation that would cause new closures of beaches	Prevent degradation of high quality waters and aquatic habitats
Restore shellfishing by reducing shellfish closures	Restore water quality to reduce number of beach closures – coastal beaches	Restore ecological conditions in the Bay by improving DO levels in the upper bay
Restore source waters by reducing algal blooms in reservoirs or remediating groundwater in WHPAs	Restore water quality to reduce beach closures – freshwater beaches	Prevent loss of coldwater fisheries in rivers; restore where feasible
Prevent groundwater that supplies private well areas from becoming impaired	Restore water quality by reducing cyanobacteria blooms on waterbodies with public access; e.g. recreational facilities, access points	Manage aquatic invasive plants in lakes
Restore water quality to reduce fish tissue contamination over time	Prevent new impairments of surface waters that support public recreation – coastal waters, lakes and non-	Prevent degradation in freshwaters outside urban services boundaries

	wadeable rivers	
Restore groundwater that supplies private wells	Restore water quality to reduce cyanobacteria blooms (other waterbodies)	Restore water quality by reducing eutrophication in other coastal waters including the coastal ponds
Groundwater restoration – other GAA and GA areas	Prevent new impairments in other less accessible waters - private lakes, wadeable streams	Restore anadromous fish runs – priority projects
Other groundwater restoration -GB		Restore saltmarshes – priority projects
		Restore riparian buffers in flood prone areas on rivers
		Protect wetlands, including riparian buffers, and minimize loss
		Restore water quality to improve ecosystem conditions in rivers and streams
		Restore stream connectivity
		Prevent further degradation (maintain) and improve as practicable waters within the urban services boundaries.
		Restore eutrophic lakes and ponds
		Restore riparian buffers & wetlands
		Restore water quality to improve ecosystem conditions

		in rivers and streams